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Weather Forecast		Today
High:80 Low:50		
Saturday	Sunday	
High:65 Low:41	High:62 Low:36	

FRIDAY

Fort Riley Post



Kids go fishing

The Directorate of Environment and Safety and the Directorate of Community Activities sponsored Fort Riley's 2nd Annual Fishing Clinic Saturday at Moon Lake. See Page 11

April 18, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Vol. 46, No. 16

2nd Lt. John Kimball, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor checks a man for weapons. The Iraqi man was stopped as he was approaching a convoy while only a few miles away the city Kerbala was being attacked.



Chicago Tribune/Nuccio DiNunzio

2nd Bn., 70th Armor leads attack

By Ray Quintanilla
Chicago Tribune

HILLAH, Iraq — In a move designed to eliminate one of the remaining Republican Guard strongholds outside Baghdad, more than 3,000 American GIs began an assault here to further isolate Iraq's capital from reinforcements.

The effort, led by the Army's 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor, included fighter jets, heavy armor and artillery. Within one 30-minute period, nearly 40 artillery rounds struck an area believed to have hundreds of dug-in Iraqi infantry troops.

At another point, several Air Force F-18s dropped 500-pound bombs, as dozens of mortar batteries were firing and about 15 tanks were blasting sites that housed Iraqi forces. A few minutes later, hundreds of soldiers from the 101st Airborne Division began clearing buildings of smaller pockets of resistance

along the southern leg of Route 84 into the city.

"The ground was shaking here pretty good," said Lt. Col. Jeff Ingram of the 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, stepping off of his battle tank. "We didn't even plan on going in there today. But we got up close to them a little too much and they fired on us. So, what the hell, might as well get this going today."

This three-way radio exchange among a field dispatcher, a tank commander and an F-18 jet pilot was typical of how the battle unfolded.

F-18 pilot: "I am approaching the grid [to drop two 500-pound bombs]. There are about 15 dismounts [soldiers on foot] running from the compound—right now!"

Tanker: "They're running to the east?"

Field dispatcher: "Can we get some fire on them? ... Fast!"

Tanker: "I see the dismounts... [machine gun firing]. They're not running anymore."

They're full of holes."

The day's plan centered on entering Hillah with tanks and Bradley Fighting Vehicles. The heavy armor was instructed to knock down a large dirt berm erected by Iraqi forces in recent months on Route 84 near the center of town. After breaking through, U.S. soldiers brought the fight to Iraqi troops who had been dug in for weeks. About an hour after the battle began, the horizon was filled with plumes of black smoke rising from at least two dozen spots.

By around 6 p.m., the shelling had eased and U.S. troops began plotting how to implement the plan's next phase: confronting units of the Republican Guard's Nebuchadnezzar Division, which had been fractured into smaller units before retreating to positions near ancient Babylonian ruins, the site is where believers erected a large tower stretching toward the heavens to bring

themselves closer to God.

Amid the battle, commanders huddled over the hood of a Humvee.

"This is real walk-and-shoot," said Maj. Gen. David Petraeus, commander of the 101st Airborne Division. "It's not as easy as it looks."

The guns roared again. "Sad-dam Hussein has claimed that he's the new Nebuchadnezzar and is establishing a new Babylon," said Brig. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, assistant division commander for operations. "We're going to secure old Babylon and Nebuchadnezzar's tomb and return them to the Iraqi people."

Pvt. Chris Nunez of Las Cruces, N.M., reported he had just gotten off a truck carrying 20 soldiers from the 101st Airborne when they came under rifle fire from about 15 Iraqi soldiers in black uniforms hidden in a large bush, he said.

See Armor Page 2

Heat, dust greet Fort Riley soldiers

By Tim Potter
Wichita Eagle

NORTHERN KUWAIT - After weeks of anxious waiting, a tank battalion from Fort Riley landed overseas this week and set up a primitive desert camp as it awaited orders to move north into Iraq. Although the 1st Battalion, 13th Armor deployed nearly a month after the war started, battalions commander Lt. Col. Frank Sherman said Thursday, "I'm pretty sure these guys are going to get into a fight." Sherman's battalion is part of Fort Riley's 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division.

For now, the 100-degree heat and blowing sand are the tank unit's immediate enemies.

The heat Thursday was oppressive to soldiers who just two days earlier had shivered in 40-degree Kansas weather.

"I hope we move up north fast," where temperatures tend to be a little lower, Lt. Rob Vilesas said.

"Oh, man," he said, as he gulped down water. "I never imagined it being this dusty."

Company commanders lectured soldiers on the importance of drinking water and wearing sunscreen. In Bravo Company, officers ordered soldiers to put up tarps and rest in the shade. The men sweated heavily, a salty treat for biting flies.

Editor's Note: Tim Potter is embedded with Fort Riley's 1st Battalion, 13th Armor.

Red Cross stops accepting packages

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

The American Red Cross has seen an overwhelming desire to support troops overseas.

Its national headquarters has been inundated with care packages with items from popcorn to baby wipes. There are now enough boxes to send 280 boxes a week for four months, said Kelly Sutton, Fort Riley Red Cross station manager.

Difficulty in keeping pace with the public's desire to send packages triggered a moratorium from the Department of Defense to halt distribution.

"While groups can no longer send care packages through the American Red Cross, there are other ways the community can help. Instead of the Quality of Life Program supporting troops, we can use it to support families," Sutton said.

Groups can provide items to help ease the strain of separation from deployed soldiers, Sutton said.

"People want to show their

patriotism, and by supporting spouses, they would be supporting troops," Sutton said.

Items should be dropped off at the Fort Riley American Red Cross office. From there, the donations will be distributed to the rear detachments in the Soldier and Family Support Center.

Sharon Rose, assistant station manager, said a lot of people wanted to help, but the only thing the office could say when the distribution was stopped was, "We are sorry, but we cannot send the package for you."

"We had a person call in (last week) who wanted to send baby wipes, but we couldn't do it," she said. "We also had a group of Boy Scouts who wanted to send a care package to soldiers, and we couldn't send it for them either."

The moratorium stopped distribution to soldiers, Sutton said. However, there are other things that can be done to channel the public's generosity.

"People can still help," she said. "Families can use support—anything that can help while soldiers are gone."

Fort Riley soldier killed in combat laid to rest in Wellsville

By Ryan Wood
Staff Writer

Kansas mourned as its first native son killed in Operation Iraqi Freedom was laid to rest on April 14, in the small farming town of Wellsville.

Sgt. Jacob Lee Butler, a scout assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry, 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division, was killed in action on April 1, during a hostile fire engagement in Iraq. Butler was also the first soldier from Fort Riley to be killed in the war.

Butler was born April 26, 1978 to James C. and Cynthia D. Butler in Merriam, Kan. He lived in Merriam for several years before moving with his family to Wellsville in 1990.

Butler joined the Army in 1998. He was first stationed at Fort Hood, Texas, and trained as a cavalry scout for two years. Butler reenlisted on March 23, 2001, and was transferred to Fort Riley.

During his time in service, Butler was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two oak leaf

clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal and the Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal. The Bronze Star and Purple Heart were awarded posthumously.

Wellsville, a town of approximately 1,600 people, was bedecked with flags snapping off salutes as the wind unfurled the stars and stripes. Businesses had signs posted in the windows, "will close at 10 a.m. so we can see Jacob Butler's funeral."

One business, across from the church holding the service, had the names of the town's active duty servicemembers in its window. All the names, save one, were in red paint. The only name in yellow was that of Butler, which was also surrounded by stars.

Hundreds of family and friends were at the chapel for Butler's service. Soldiers from the 3rd Bde., 1st Armored Div. were on hand as pallbearers and members of the honor guard who performed the 21-gun salute. Many soldiers from Butler's unit were unable to enter the chapel because of the limited space. Throughout the service, they stood outside the building serving a final watch over their fallen comrade.

A soldier's tribute was offered by Sgt. 1st Class Scott A. Hallenback, S2 noncommissioned officer in charge, 1st Bn., 41st Inf., at the funeral for his fallen friend.

"A lot of people will say that Sgt. Butler is now a hero," said Hallenback, "I'm here to say that Sgt. Butler always was."

Brig. Gen. Frank Helmick, commanding general, 24th Infantry Division (Mech) and Fort Riley, brought condolences from Thomas E. White, Secretary of the Army and Gen. Eric K. Shinseki, Army chief of staff.

"Butler lead from the front in everything, anytime, any place," said Helmick. "He upheld the honor and esprit de corps of his outfit, the Straight and Stalwart 1-41 Mechanized Infantry, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, the Bulldogs and the United States Army."

Lt. Col. Sonja Thompson, chaplain, Fort Leavenworth, compared Butler to another Jacob in the Bible and his battle in the sand.

"Out of Jake's efforts a new nation will be formed," said Thompson. "Jake was the one who would shoot for the moon, who reached forward. How like him to become a scout. One week later, after Jake fell, in a square in Baghdad a statue fell to the

ground and a people were liberated. I believe that was a promise made to our Jacob," she said.

"He did not have...a wife or children," said Thompson, "but today, in a land far away, there will be generations of children who may not know Jake, but they will know what he did."

As the service ended and the funeral procession moved down Main Street to the cemetery, each intersection was blocked with a fire truck or a police car. All along the route, Butler's friends and neighbors stood in silent tribute to their fallen son. Flags waived and children held their parents and

watched the silent parade.

A few dozen men in VFW uniforms, faces creased with age and experience, lined the entrance to the cemetery where Butler was to be buried. They had stood in their spots for at least an hour, not

See Soldier Page 2



Post/Wood

Soldiers of 3rd Brigade, 1st Armored Division carry the flag-draped casket of Sgt. Jacob Lee Butler. Butler's funeral was Monday. Butler was killed in action in Iraq.



Training support division names Soldier of the Year

By Jamie Bender
Staff writer

Spec. Jeremy Ricci was named 75th Division (Training Support) Soldier of the Year recently.



Spec. Jeremy Ricci

Ricci, an administrative assistant, has been at Fort Riley for six months. He joined the Army Reserve last year, attended basic training at Fort Jackson, S.C., and graduated from Advanced Individual Training in October.

Ricci decided to join the Army for many reasons.

"I will have money for college, and it's a good career

choice," he said. "You get a great deal of respect, not only from your coworkers, but civilians, too."

Before competing at the division level, Ricci went to the Soldier of the Quarter board at the brigade level. He won the board and also beat out the previous Soldiers of the Quarter, which gave him the brigade Soldier of the Year.

"When I first came to the S-1 section, they decided to send me to the board because I was just out of basic training and AIT," said Ricci. "The brigade appearance board was hard. The questions were a little tougher."

Following the brigade competition, Ricci attended the division competition at the division's headquarters in Houston, Texas.

"The competition at division was harder," said Ricci. "There was a written test and a CTT [common task training] test, along with the appearance board, so the

scoring is a little bit different."

Ricci studied for the competition in several different ways.

"I had flash cards that I studied with Staff Sgt. Nelson Russell," he said. "I also used a program called Next Rank on the computer during lunch times."

For Ricci, the competitions held more challenge than just the actual testing.

"The most challenging part of the boards was being in front of sergeant majors as a lower enlisted soldier," said Ricci. "You just have to keep your bearing and pretend like you are an NCO [noncommissioned officer]. If you are confident, know that you are right and show you want to be an NCO, you are rewarded for that."

The military is something that Ricci is familiar with. His stepfather, Staff Sgt. Gerald Speights, is currently stationed at Ft. Sill, Okla., as a drill sergeant.

"He helped me set goals and

prepared me for basic training," said Ricci. "I didn't have to go and be surprised about it, because I have lived with it. He didn't have a lot of time to help me study [for the boards], but he has set goals that I would like to reach."

Ricci will compete in the 5th Army board next. The competition has been postponed due to world conditions until further notice.

"I'll be ready to go," said Ricci. "Knowing that the next board is coming up is beneficial, because I can keep studying for it."

Ricci has some advice for soldiers who would like to compete at boards.

"If you try too hard to get noticed, you don't get noticed," he said. "If you do your job, stay in line and maintain your bearing and do what they taught you at basic training and carry that through your career, you'll go places."

Grunt By Wayne Udden



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Local transportation provider receives prestigious award

Academy Movers, Inc. from Junction City, Kan., will be awarded the Military Traffic Management Command Quality Award for 2002.

The MTMC crystal trophy award will be presented to Academy Movers at building 210, Room 118C on April 23, 2 p.m.

This award is given annually to the transportation industry in recognition of their com-

mitment to excellence. The competition is open to all Department of Defense approved transportation providers, which includes approximately 1,000 agents/carriers worldwide, in all modes and services. To be eligible, a firm must have demonstrated sustained exceptional performance in support of the Department of Defense during the 2002 calendar year.

Volunteers needed

The Country Stampede is coming to Manhattan once again this June. The country music festival is a full weekend event featuring artists like Hank Williams, Jr., Kenny Chesney, Deanna Carter and many others. The event is being held at Tuttle Creek State Park June 25 and 28.

Volunteers are needed to work at the event. The Stampede volunteer staff is required to work five to six hours, June 26-28.

Volunteers will receive free admission for all four days of the festival, seating alongside the VIP area, a T-shirt and three meals per day, said Mick McCallister, the point of contact for the volunteers.

In past years, McCallister said

about 50 percent of volunteers were soldiers and their spouses. This year he said he is opening up more positions for military spouses.

"That's the least we can do for the sacrifices they must endure," said McCallister.

For more information or to volunteer, contact McCallister, mccallim@riley.army.mil or 239-2727.

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Soldier

continued from page 1

wanting to miss the chance to honor their fallen comrade with a final salute. More than a few wept openly as the hearse passed.

Members of the Honor Guard slowly moved the flag-draped coffin from the hearse into the sun. White gloves shone in the bright spring sunlight. Each soldier watched the flag pass, saluting a friend and the country that he died for.

Butler's mother wept softly as a few final words were spoken at the grave. The wind took most of the words away from the crowd gathered for this final moment. Finally, a shadow box, a collection of Butler's awards, and a flag folded inside a wooden case, were presented to Butler's mother.

With precision, guided by generations of tradition, a 21-gun salute and the slow sound of Taps ended the ceremony and another soldier was laid to rest after giving his life for his country.

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Armor

continued from page 1

As he was about to return the fire, an Iraqi shell landed about 50 feet away, blowing a large hole in the ground. "Next thing I know, I am on the ground and there's shrapnel in my face," Nunez said as he was being treated at a nearby field medical station.

"Those guys in the bush were under a lot of fire from us and I don't think any of them came out alive," said Nunez, 19. He said he expected to return to his unit once his "head cleared a little bit."

Reports from the field indicated that tanks on the edge of the city had killed at least a dozen Iraqis and many others were believed dead from artillery and air strikes.

When his tank entered the city, Charlie Breitenback, of Blair, Okla., said he was met with small arms fire, then rocket-propelled grenades. "That stuff bounces right off of us," he said, his face dirty from sweat and dust.

"The Iraqis were doing a hit-and-run style of fighting," he said. "When they run, they are open targets for us."

Editor's Note: Re-printed with permission from the Chicago Tribune.

FORT RILEY POST

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Soldiers prepare for deployment

By Ryan D. Wood
Staff Writer

Moving one step closer to deployment, soldiers from the Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 4th Battalion, 1st Field Artillery completed Soldier Readiness Packets on April 8, and continued the march toward deployment.

To complete an SRP packet, soldiers move through a variety of stations, ranging from blood draws to visiting with a chaplain. All of the stations are designed to bring soldiers to a state of deployment readiness by bringing paperwork, immunizations and items such as wills and insurance up to date. The SRP is one of the last steps in pre-deployment preparations.

The HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA has been in an increased state of training for many months due to their recent deployment to the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, Calif., in January and the possibility of a quick deployment soon afterward, said 1st Sgt. Jason T. Maki, HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA.

"That was our big train-up," he said. "Luckily we don't have to jump through hoops and try and get all trained up because we just went through a deployment at the NTC. They (soldiers) are highly trained and got very high marks from the OCs (observer/controller) out there."

In addition to Common Task Training and regular PT, soldiers have been getting some extra training to prepare them for situa-

tions they may face during their deployment.

"We've focused a lot on combat training," said Capt. Tyrone Martin, HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA. "Besides the common required training such as NBC (Nuclear, Biological and Chemical) and first aid, we focused on weapons training: from our crew served weapons, the biggest ones like the Paladins, to all of the personal assigned weapons. Mainly, the combat skills are what we have been focusing on and then other deployment training as we can squeeze it in."

Certain members of the battalion brushed up on their skills



Post/Wood

PEC Alfred Rios, HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA, makes it to the front of the line and starts working on his Soldier Readiness Packet.

while helping their fellow soldiers complete the SRP packets.

"The medics, besides doing their regular training with the battalion and their individual training at the aid station, also have to run the SRP sites. This is also a form of training, because they are giving shots and drawing blood," said Martin. "There is a lot of concurrent training that goes on along with the normal training schedule."

Rounding out a challenging training schedule, HHB, 4th Bn., 1st FA, has received new equipment and is actively working at bringing everyone up to speed on the new gear.

"Besides our ranges, SRP and other training, we've got new equipment," said Martin. We are doing all the net fielding and training for that, which will enhance our ability in combat."

Even with all of the extra training and preparations, the soldiers morale is still high.

"Overall, morale is very high," said Martin. "The soldiers are motivated and they want to go. They want to do their job."

"You know, you train, you train and you train. Until you go in there and actually deploy, you're not any less of a soldier or any more unprofessional, its just that you would like to practice it for real," said Martin. "And I think that is what has got a lot of people motivated. They want to do their jobs. They want to protect their country."

"As a soldier, this is like getting to play in the big game," said Maki.

Talk Around Town

"What is your favorite thing to do during the summer?"



"I like playing basketball outside on the courts with all of the kids."



"During the summer, I like to take my wife and my grandson camping."



"I like to just be at home relaxing with my friends."

Spc. Tamara D. Burke
445th Medical
Detachment (VS)

Staff Sgt. Del Finley
445th Medical
Detachment (VS)

Spc. Bradley Linder
445th Medical
Detachment (VS)

Team works to protect citizens

By Michael Watson
Staff writer

When the Soviet Union disbanded in the early 1990s, the country's weapons of mass destruction were reported operational.

If the allegations were true, the United States had no plan of action to respond to Soviet capabilities of producing metric tons of small pox, said Lt. Col. Scott Dold, commander, 73rd Civil Support Team (Weapons of Mass Destruction), a Kansas National Guard unit stationed at Forbes Field in Topeka, Kan.

To ensure homeland security after Sept. 11, 2001, the United States government began certifying civil support teams to respond to these types of threats.

The 73rd CST-WMD received its certification from Congress on March 14. The certification means the unit is fully ready to assist civil authorities during potential weapons of mass destruction incidents.

"If authorities are dealing with something unknown, we will be the first responders," Dold said. "We bring extremely powerful communications systems to the table to help keep people safe. Our Analytical Platform includes everything you would find in a clinical lab, only it is mobilized. That means we can identify a white powder as anthrax or coffee creamer on site."

Once the unknown substance is in the lab, its DNA can be identified in 30-40 minutes, he said. The faster substances can be identified as harmful or safe, the faster additional resources could be called to the site or called off, Dold said.

There are unique threats to every state, and Kansas is no different, Dold said. However, civilians should not worry about an

attack, he said. If it happens, the team is trained to deal with it, though the actual training cannot be described for security reasons.

The CST-WMD was formed in January 2002, and it belongs to the civilian community. The unit works for Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius. The week after the team's certification, the team met with the governor at the state capitol during Armed Forces Appreciation Day.

Sebelius took that opportunity to visit with Dold and other soldiers from the unit. She also saw the equipment that will help to keep Kansas citizens safe.

"We are glad you are here," Sebelius said. "If there is a biological threat, it is good to know

that you will be there to identify it."

"There could be hoaxes or there could be real threats — it just helps knowing that the team will be there to identify it, to see if it's something to be worried about or if the substance is coffee creamer."

Regardless of the threat, Dold said the team would be ready, even when new agents develop.

"The nasty agents today will change, and there will be a new nasty agent tomorrow," he said. "But we will make sure we have the equipment and training necessary to handle those nasty agents."

Tax assistance still available

If April 15 passed you by and you need to file your taxes, tax assistance is still available at the Legal Assistance Office, building 200. Don't get into trouble with the IRS because you did not file your taxes. Go into the Fort Riley Tax Center today, or call 239-1040.

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Fort Riley Post

April 18, 2003

Korea 50 years ago -- U.N. POWs complain of mistreatment

By Jim Caldwell
Army News Service

As the Reds and U.N. forces began a formal prisoner-of-war exchange, prisoners on both sides told tales of mistreatment by their captors, 50 years ago this week in Korea.

April 17, 1953 — Communist prisoners throw a barrage of stones at guards at the U.N. prisoner-of-war compound on Yongcho Island. Guards fire at the POWs, killing four and wounding 45.

April 17-20 — The communists launch local attacks against White Horse, Old Baldy, I-Bone and Pork Chop Hills from April 17-20. The heaviest fighting takes place on Pork Chop, where 7th Infantry Division soldiers have to fight man-to-man before they can throw back the Chinese.

The big news this week is the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners between the two sides beginning April 20. The U.N. forces have named the operation Little Switch.

As communist POWs are being bused from Munsan to Panmunjom, many of them begin tearing the new prison uniforms they were given to wear in place of the prison clothing with a large

"P" on the back. They want to appear to be in bad shape when they reach the exchange. They also throw away the toilet articles and toothbrushes and toothpaste they were given. Most of them refused to eat breakfast, and as soon as they're back on their side, they complain of being hungry.

U.N. forces are exchanging about 500 enemy POWs each day while receiving 100 allied men daily. On the first day, the U.N. turns over 150 Chinese and 350 North Koreans, which will remain the pattern throughout Little Switch. The United Nations receives 51 South Koreans, 30 Americans, 13 Britons, three Turks and one POW each from Canada, South Africa, Greece and the Philippines.

Gen. Mark Clark, U.N. supreme commander, is present to greet the first group of allied prisoners. The first American-born welcomee back is German-born Army Pvt. Carl W. Kirchenhausen of New York.

No Americans are released April 22. By April 23, 79 Americans will be freed. The exchanged South Koreans are taken to hospitals in their country for care, while Americans and most of the other former prisoners are flown to Tokyo where they'll be treated. It's the first stop on the way home.

April 18 — Fifth Air Force announces that American F-86 Sabrejet pilots shot down 18 MiG-15s over the past seven days. One F-86 was shot down in a dogfight, three others were lost to enemy groundfire and six to other causes.

April 19 — U.N. Supreme Command announces the activation of two more South Korean divisions, bringing the number of Republic of Korea divisions to 16. The South Korean Defense Ministry announces that its forces are now capable of manning 85 percent of the 155-mile-long front.

April 20-23 — The Reds have barely received their soldiers in the prisoner exchange when they crank up their propaganda machine. Both Pyongyang and Peking radios tell of the poor, emaciated conditions of their soldiers. They charge the U.N. Command with brutality in the prison camps and say U.N. officials inflicted horrors upon their prisoners.

Freed allied prisoners have their own terrible stories to tell about how the communists treated them. On April 20, allied stories of conditions in North Korean

camps are varied. Some say they were not mistreated, while others say they received no care. Many were forced to attend re-education classes on communist doctrine. Others say conditions improved when armistice talks began July 1951. Conditions varied from then on, depending on whether the communists thought the talks were going in their favor. They say that there are allies in even worse condition who still remain in the communist prison camps.

On April 21 Sgt. Orville Mullins, Covington, Ky., tells of an August-September 1951 death march north from Pyongyang that lasted 45 to 50 days. Of the 161 POWs that began the ordeal, only he and 60 others survived. Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman Styles Bridges (R-N.H.) says April 22 that the Defense and State Departments have assured him that evidence is being collected against the communists for possible war crimes trials.

House Armed Services Committee Chairman Dewey Short (R-Mo.) urges that new truce talks be delayed until the Reds permit the International Red Cross to inspect camps, just as the U.N. Command

does.

By April 23 allied officials realize that all of their soldiers returned by the enemy were captured after the 1950 fighting.

Reporters who interviewed the freed allied prisoners say on April 23 that the prisoners say that at least 1,500 allies were either murdered by their communist captors or died from mistreatment.

April 21 — B-29 Superfortresses bomb a recently repaired airfield at Taechon. The air base is a rest stop for the enemy convoys bringing sick and wounded allied prisoners south for Little Switch. The attack is the closest to the convoy route, which is immune from allied air attacks throughout the prisoner swap.

Air Force fighter-bombers and planes from the Navy carriers Oriskany and Princeton attack enemy positions on the western front the same day.

Fort Riley continues to be a Korean War Commemorative Community through 2003.

Barlow Theater

Tonight:

7 p.m.
Old School (R)

Saturday:

4:30 p.m.
Daredevil (PG-13)
7 p.m.
The Hunted (R)

Sunday:

4:30 p.m.
Old School (R)
7 p.m.
Daredevil (PG-13)

Thursday:

7 p.m.
The Hunted (R)

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Tulip Festival

THE MARTIN AGENCY
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SET
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april times



Briefs

Post Wide Yard Sale

The Post Wide Yard Sale will be April 26, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Easter Egg Hunt

The DCA, MWR and a local fast food restaurant will team together on Saturday for the annual Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival. This free activity will take place from noon to 3 p.m., at the Fort Riley Burger King on Custer Hill. The event will feature over 2,000 eggs, a Moonwalk, sack races and ring-toss event.

Toddlers up to 4 years old will begin hunting eggs at 1:10 p.m. (toddlers must be able to walk unattended), followed by 5 to 7 year-olds beginning at 1:30 p.m. and finally 8-11 year-olds at 1:50 p.m. Call 239-9354 for more information.

Spring Heating, Air Conditioning Schedule

Air conditioning systems are scheduled to be turned on May 5 - 16 in the following order: barracks, BOQ's and BEQ's, 8000 area, community buildings,

administrative buildings, dining facilities and then motor pools.

The heating and cooling systems in the chapels, medical and dental buildings will be maintained as appropriate. Family housing occupants control their own heat/air conditioning systems as desired. The authorized temperature for the cooling season is 76 to 80 degrees.

Legal Assistance Hours

Starting Monday the Fort Riley Legal Assistance Office will be changing hours to reflect the demands of the community. The office will be open for walk-ins (notarizations and powers of attorney) on Monday through Wednesday, as well as Friday, 9 a.m. - 8 p.m., and on Thursday from 1 - 8 p.m. The office will no longer be having Saturday hours. Appointment hours will now be Monday and Tuesday, 1 - 8 p.m., Wednesday (Will Day) 9 - 11 a.m. and 1 - 8 p.m., Thursday 3 - 8 p.m., Friday 9 - 11:30 a.m. and 4:30 - 9 p.m. If you have any questions about the new appointment hours, call 239-3117.

Nursery Workers Needed

Looking for workers who are interested in working at the nursery's on post at any of the chapels (Main Post, Morris Hill, Normandy and Kapaun Chapels). You must be able to work Sunday mornings for worship services. Those who are interested must be 18 years of age or older and must be CPR and First Aide certified, or willing to get certified at their expense. Call 239-2799.

K-State, Fort Riley Day

Kansas State University and Coach Bill Snyder are hosting Fort Riley Day April 26, at 1 p.m. during the football team's annual spring scrimmage.

Soldiers and families can gain free admission by going through Gate B on the west side of the stadium and presenting their military ID card. Seating will be reserved in Section 3 on the west side.

A special halftime presentation will recognize Fort Riley soldiers, their families and those local soldiers who were killed in action this month while serving in Operation Iraqi Freedom.

For more information on the sixth-ranked Wildcats and 2002 Holiday Bowl champions, visit www.kstatesports.com

Employee of the Quarter

Sgt. Jennifer Gibson was recently recognized as Employee of the Quarter at the Office Of the Staff Judge Advocate. She received a three day pass.

Marriage Enrichment Class

Want to make a good marriage better? Want to better understand your spouse? Want to have your spouse better understand YOU? Come to the monthly Marriage Enrichment Class on April 26, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. at the Soldier and Family Support Center. Free childcare is provided if you bring your child's shot records. Register by April 24, by calling 239-3436.

Easter Musical

An Easter musical, "The Borrowed Tomb" will be held in the Junction City High-school Auditorium tonight and tomorrow, 7 p.m. The doors will be open at 6:15 p.m. Free tickets may be reserved by phone at 762-4402 or available at 1315 W. Ash.

Veterinary Services

Veterinary Services is having a problem with No Shows. In the future, after two No Shows, people will lose their privileges at Vet Services. Office hours are 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Monday - Friday to schedule your pet's clinic appointment. Call 239-3886 for more information.

Thrift Shop

It is Spring cleaning time and the Fort Riley Thrift Shop wants to help you clear out your clutter! Don't wait for the yard sale! Call the Thrift Shop to come and pick up your donations (in good condition).

Visit the Thrift Shop in building 267, Stuart Ave., 784-3874. Hours of operation are 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. on the first Saturday of each month.

The Thrift Shop is looking for people to be on the board for next year. If you are interested, call Scott Martis, 784-2351.

The Shoppe

Freshen up your home with

something new from The Shoppe! The Shoppe has many new ideas for Easter. The Shoppe is located in building 259, Stuart Ave., 239-2783. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Tuesday - Saturday.

The Shoppe accepts Visa & MasterCard (minimum of \$25 purchase) and offers gift certificates to make your shopping easier!

Mail Training Change

An Introduction to Unit Mail-room Operations class will be offered May 7 and 21, 8 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. at building 319. An Official Mail Training class will be offered May 14, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., at building 319, CPAC. Call 239-5411 to enroll.

Softball Tournament

Junction City and Geary County will host a Law Enforcement Memorial Softball Tournament April 26 and 27.

Proceeds will benefit the construction of the Junction City/Geary County Law Enforcement Memorial, which will honor officers who lost their lives protecting others.

The tournament will be at Junction City's South Park. For more information, call 238-2041, 375-4646 or 238-7679. Deadline for payment is Monday.

FRANK'S AUTO SALES

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New site for e-mailing troops

By Bruce Anderson

Army News Service

The Army has established a new Web link that makes it easier to send a greeting to soldiers serving in the War on Terrorism.

The link, called "To Our Soldiers," is on the Army HomePage. People interested in sending a message to a soldier can also access the program directly at www.army.mil/tooursoldiers

While similar Web sites for sending messages to service members in general already existed, there was no way to send a message specifically to someone in the Army.

"This link gives people a way to be connected directly to soldiers," said Lt. Col. Mark H. Wiggins, web director for the Army HomePage.

"To Our Soldiers" was launched the night of April 8 and enjoyed immediate resonance. Within minutes of being launched, more than 20 messages were received, and by morning, the number of messages was more than 200, Wiggins said.

"The numbers are not the important thing," Wiggins said. "What is important is providing the capability for people to get their message to soldiers."

To Our Soldiers is designed for posting a message to an individual soldier or to a group, but is not designed to be a letter writing service, instant-messaging service, e-mail service, bulletin board or general chat service.

Each message is viewed individually, and may be edited or deleted if the content violates operational security, privacy or propriety.

HOUSE ADS

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Port Riley Post

April 18, 2003

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Fort Riley Letters to the Front

April 18, 2003

America's Warfighting Center

Page 7

In support of United States troops deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom

"Even though you are away from home, there will always be someone who cares, no matter how hard it may be. Be safe, and make sure you watch out for each other." - Junction City High School JROTC Cadet Pfc. Krystal Dial, 16, Selma, Ala.

"I hope you guys are doing okay, and thanks for fighting. Good luck during your 'vacation' there, as my father would say, who is also deployed. Best of luck to you all. Love, hope and prayers." - Cadet, Pfc. Rosanna Richardson, 15

"Thank you for fighting for us. We are all praying for a safe return. Thank you and we love you." - Cadet, Pfc. Erin Sawyer, 17, Fort Hood, Texas

"You're doing a great job. Keep up the good work. Come back safely. Thanks for fighting for your country and what you believe in. Good luck!" - Cadet, Staff Sgt. Kathy Petroski, 16, Fort Campbell, Ky.

"To 1st Bn., 41st Inf. Div., have fun and come home soon. We miss you, Dad." - Cadet, Capt. Derek Dickerson, 18, Carlisle, Pa.

"Despite what may be heard throughout the media, your mission is of great importance and honor. God bless you all, and we are all proud." - Cadet, Lt. Col. Robert Moore, 18, Springdale, Ark.

"Be strong, and remember that we are cheering you on here." - Cadet, Staff Sgt. Ashley Bush, 15, Junction City, Kan.

"To my husband, Ken Smith, and all the soldiers in 1st Bn., 41st Inf. Div., our prayers are with you all. Stay safe, and thank you for doing a great job. Hurry home. Love from all at the Fort Riley food court. Hooah!" - Susie Smith, military spouse, Fort Riley, Kan.

"Thank you for your sacrifices. We, as a nation, support you, pray for you and are very proud! God bless America!" - Peggy Fyff, military spouse, Hobart, Ind.

"To my husband, I love and miss you. Come home soon. To all the troops overseas, our prayers are with each and every one of you. May you all return home very soon." - Kendra Wardlow, spouse of Sgt. 1st Class David Wardlow, 1st Bn., 41st Inf. Div.

"We are so proud of you all! Your selfless service for our freedoms we enjoy back home is more than anyone could ask of you. I thank you so much for risking yourself and your safety to allow me and my family to enjoy our homeland as free people. May God bless you and always keep you safe! You're in my prayers always. Thank you!" - E. Mathews, military spouse

"We all miss you and pray for your safe return. Everyone from the Fort Riley food court says 'hi and hurry home.' You guys are doing a fantastic job. Hooah!" - Debby Garza, spouse of Staff Sgt. Robert Moore, 18, Springdale, Ark.

"To all the U.S. troops, God bless you. Thank you!" - Karen, John, 12, and Jenny, 7, Krzanowski, Okemos, Mich.

"Thank you for defending the

freedom of our country. And, a quick message to Sgt. Miriam Lopez and Sgt. Leo Gardner—we miss you guys and hope that you are well!" - Adrienne Rogers, military spouse

"We love you and miss you! Stay healthy and safe. Get your rest, and drink your water! We are praying for you and all the soldiers daily. Lots of love and hugs!" - Patti-Sue Nakazono, spouse of Chap. (Capt.) Nakazono, 1st Bn., 13th Armor

"Great job, keep it up and stay safe." - 1st Lt. Terence Kelley, 1st Bn., 5th FA

"Be safe, and I'll see you soon!" - Spc. Dustin Therrien, 70th Eng. Bn.

"Keep up the good fight. I will be joining you soon!" - Spc. Peter Gallagher, 339th TC

"To all the soldiers overseas, we're all behind you 100 percent." - Sgt. John Kearse, 234th Signal Bn., Marshalltown, Iowa

"Thanks for making a path for us. We'll be there soon to clean up the mess!" - Spc. Perry Graham, 234th Signal Bn., Cedar Rapids, Iowa

"You guys are doing a good job. Keep up the good work and we will see you soon." - Spc. Justin Pingel, 234th Signal Bn., Dewitt, Iowa

"Keep up the good work. Be safe and come home soon." - Sgt. 1st Class Dennis Spangler, HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor, St. Mary's, Pa.

"You are doing a great job. I hope all is well. Take care and hurry home!" - Sgt. 1st Class John

Harris, HHC, 2nd Bn., 70th Armor

"Keep up all the hard work. Make it back safe! God bless you all!" - Sgt. Patrick Brooks, 937th Eng. Group, Topeka, Kan.

"You are all doing an outstanding job over there. Let's finish up and come back home safe and sound. CAN DO!" - Pfc. John Izz, 1st Maint. Co.

"War is easy as long as you train as you fight. Training is the key to victory. Stay safe." - Staff Sgt. Lavar D. White, HHC, 1st Bn., 13th Armor

"I pray everyday that God will keep you all safe. What you are doing for our country is amazing, and everyone back here is very

supportive and proud. Families in Junction City are rallying and cheering you on with posters and balloons, and honking with love. Please come home safe, and don't forget that we care and are proud." - Spc. Autumn R. Davis, HHC, 70th Eng. Bn.

"Great job! Keep your heads up and your spirits high. We are all proud of you." - Staff Sgt. Chris Schmitt, 70th Eng. Bn.

"Wishing you the best. Come back safe and sound." - Staff Sgt. Arthur D. Hucksins, HHC, 1st Bn., 13th Armor.

"Thanks for everything you are doing for us. Keep your hopes up and come home soon." - Pfc. Charles R. Pegram, 1st Bn., 13th Armor, Roanoke, Va.

"Thank you for serving your country. I'm proud of all of you. Stay safe and hurry home. Keep

up the good work. You're in our hearts and prayers." - Sheri Belville, Wichita, Kan.

"As a citizen and an employee of the U.S. Army, I am in awe and extremely proud of what you have accomplished. Rest assured, the staff of the Soldier and Family Support Center is taking good care of your families!" - Bill Powers, chief, SFSC, Junction City, Kan.

"We got your back! We're taking care of your families! Hooah to all of you! God bless you all!" - Dolly and Elias Guadalupe, ACS relocation specialist, Puerto Rico

"Great job. God bless you all." - Caroline Arbogast, Army Community Service volunteer, Hanau, Germany

"We are praying for your speedy return." - Nicole Sizemore, SFSC, soldier risk reduction, Adona, Ark.

"All of us in the military family sincerely appreciate the prayers and best wishes for all of our VOLUNTEER soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen and coast guardsmen. They have earned and deserve our respect and thanks, as have their families, who make many sacrifices in the name of American freedom and the preservation of our way of life.

To date, over half of Fort Riley's active duty military population has been deployed, making for emptier neighborhoods and slews of single-parent household. We have recently suffered our first combat casualty. Saddened yes, so we grieve, but we also go forward with our lives, supporting those we love and know in what is a just cause.

We all get up in the morning, send our children to school, get ourselves to work and at the end of the day, enjoy soccer and baseball practices, cookouts in the yard and all the activities your families likewise participate in.

Yet, we never forget those already gone and those continuing to serve here, as well as the thousands of reserve component soldiers doing the same thing.

We truly appreciate our support; we know it is there. We "feel" it, and like the kind words expressed by my brother, Ric, each prayer prayed and message sent is an inspiration to all of us.

God bless these GREAT AMERICANS as they go forward, likely into harm's way, and again, thank you for thinking, praying and speaking kind words on their behalf." - Scott Martin

"Dear soldiers, thank you for your diligence, bravery and determination in riding a nation of a tyrant.

You have done a superb job in all areas of the operation and are to be commended for a job well done.

May God bless each and every one you and keep you safe and secure until you return home." - Joe Zelko, Office of the Inspector General, Inspection Team Chief

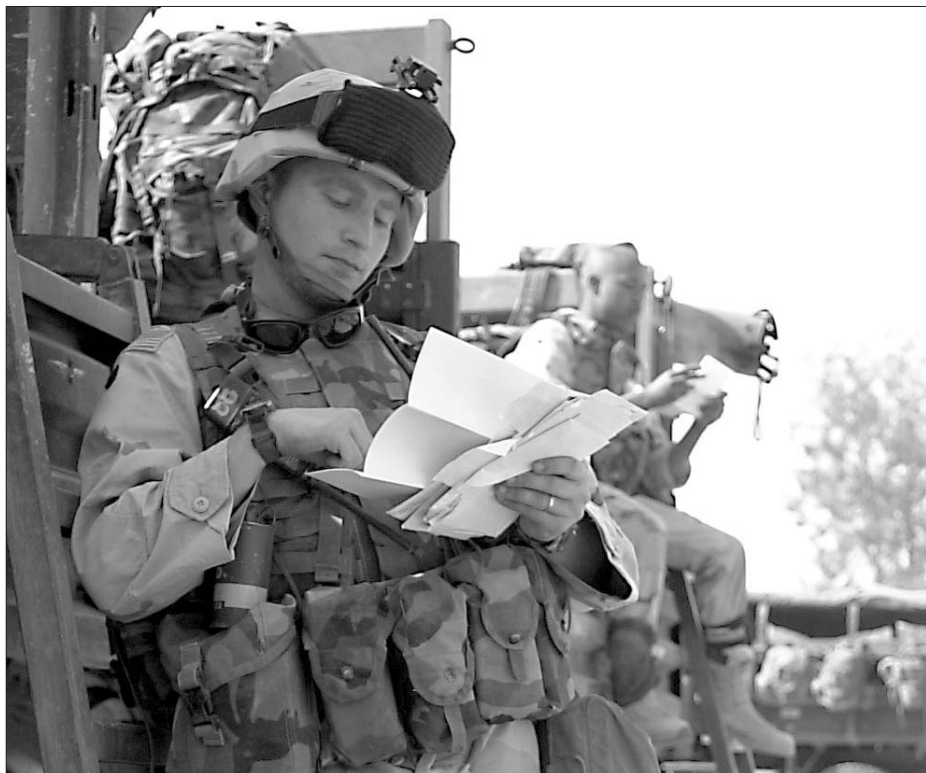
"It is the soldier, NOT the reporter, who has given us the freedom of the press.

It is the soldier, NOT the poet, who has given us the freedom of speech.

It is the soldier, NOT the campus organizer who has given us the freedom to demonstrate.

It is the soldier— Who salutes the flag, Who serves beneath the flag, And whose coffin is draped by the flag.

Who allows the protester to burn the flag." - Father Dennis Edward O'Brien, Sgt., USMC (Contributed by Kay Forman, DCA)



55th Sig. Co/Kyrin V. Adams

To all of our troops, we thank you and salute you! We anticipate your safe return.
Compiled by the Fort Riley Public Affairs Office.





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Port Riley Post

April 18, 2003

Car rental rules for accidents clarified

By Camille C. Malone
Chief, Claims Division

The Claims Division has received some correspondence regarding the April 4 article, Accidents in Rental Vehicles while TDY Require Special Action. The article gave the impression that one must have a government card in order to rent a vehicle while traveling on government orders. That is not true. The previous article was written with the assumption that the government employee had already been issued a government credit card and was authorized to use it. It merely stated that the Bank of America government VISA card offers primary insurance on rental vehicles to those who travel on official government orders however, in order to benefit from the VISA program, you must use the Bank of America issued VISA card. There are some government employees who are not issued government credit cards, and therefore the previous article would not apply to them. Vehicles they rented while traveling on official government orders may be covered under a contract between the Military Traffic Management Command and various car rental agencies. Under this contract, government renters are generally not responsible for loss or damage to the vehicle. The following are exceptions noted in the contract: a. Obtaining the vehicle through fraud or misrepresentation or the damage or loss is caused intentionally by an authorized driver. b. Operation of the vehicle by the driver who is under the influence of intoxicants

or prohibited drugs. c. Use of the vehicle for any illegal purpose. d. Use of the vehicle in pushing or towing another vehicle. e. Use or permitting the vehicle to carry passengers or property for hire. f. Operation of the vehicle in live artillery fire exercises or used in training for tactical maneuvers. g. Operation of the vehicle in a test, race or contest. h. Operation of the vehicle by a person other than an authorized driver. i. Operation across international boundaries unless specifically authorized at the rental. j. Theft of the rented vehicle and the renter cannot produce the vehicle keys unless the renter can show the keys were stolen through theft or robbery. k. Operation of the vehicle of paved, graded, state or professionally maintained roads, or drive-ways, except when the company has agreed to this in writing beforehand. Should the government employee lose or damage a rented vehicle due to one of the exceptions mentioned above, the employee's unit or agency will be notified and the employee may be held liable for the damages.

To be protected under the contract while traveling government

orders, the employee should make sure the rental arrangements are made with a rental agency that is party to the MTMC contract. There are about twenty-two agencies listed at the MTMC website: <http://websearch.mtmcc.army.mil/CONTENT/660/participatinglisting.pdf>

When picking up the rental vehicle from the agency, the employee should show the representative a copy of his or her orders. Under the contract, employees may pay for rentals using cash, personal check or credit card. If the employee does not use a credit card to rent the vehicle, a cash deposit up to the estimated amount of rental charges may be required. If the government employee has an accident while in possession of the rental vehicle, he should contact the local police immediately, and then the car rental agency. The car rental agency should take care of everything. Should the employee receive correspondence from the rental agency requiring payments for the damage to the rental vehicle, he should contact the Claims office, 239-3830 or 239-2633, immediately.

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